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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/783,445	FREY, HELMUT	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Dana Ross	3722	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After Final Amendment filed 10 August 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3,5 and 7-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

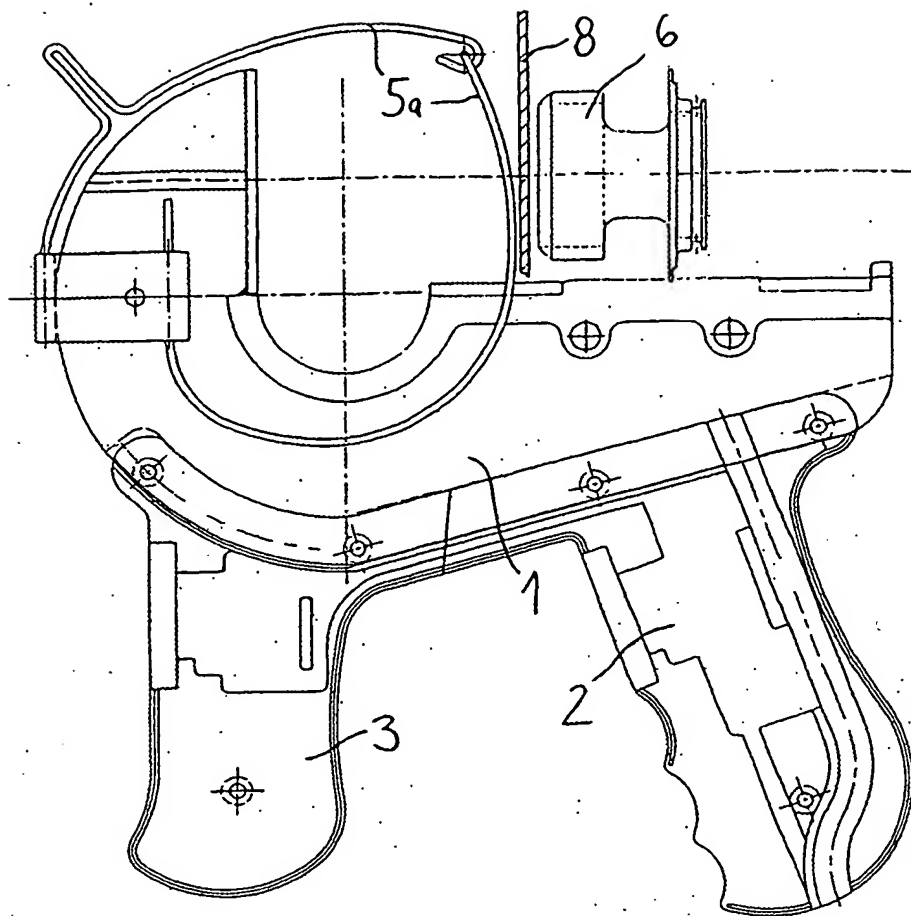


Fig. 1

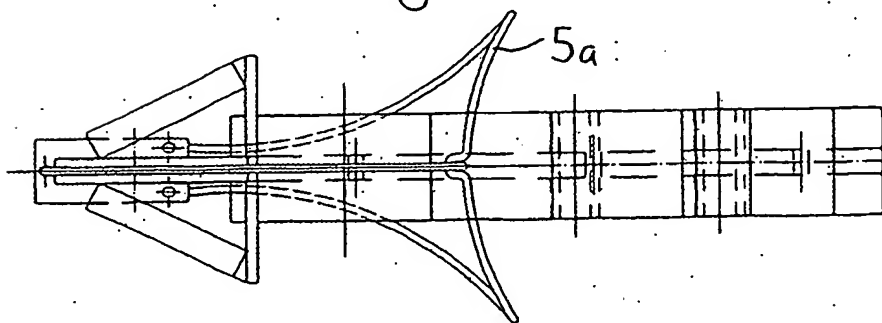


Fig 1A

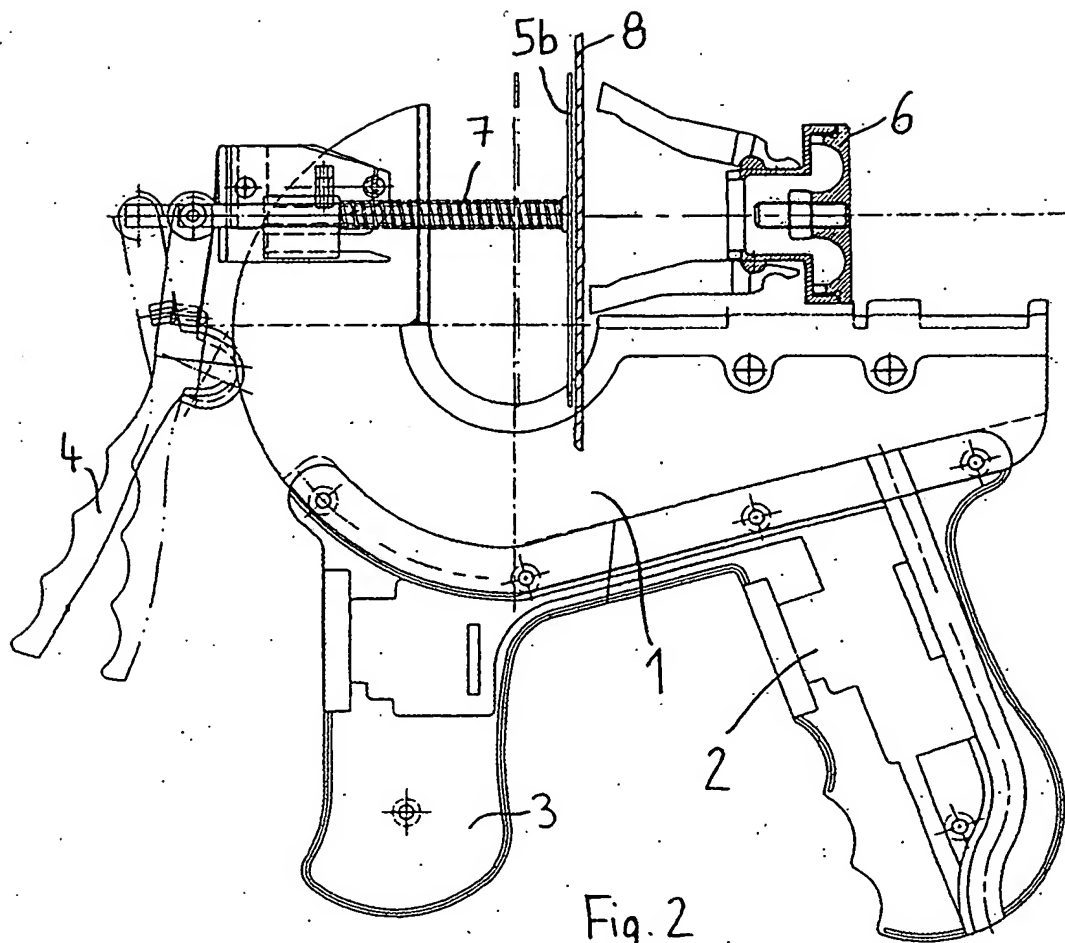


Fig. 2

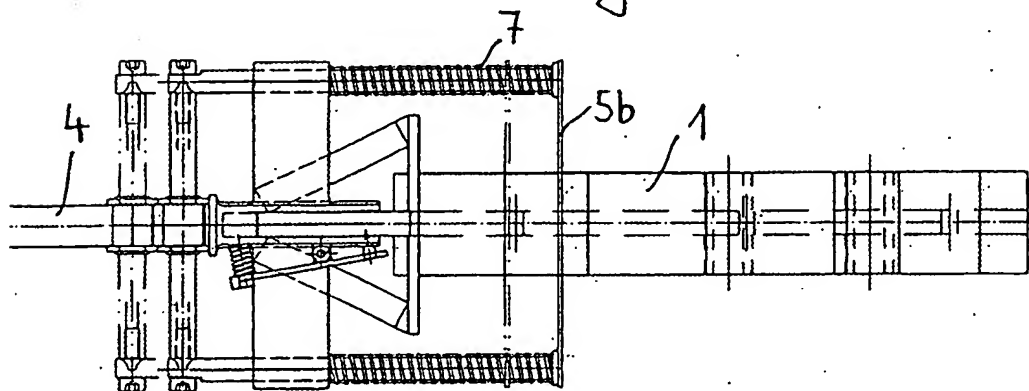


Fig 2A

***ALLOWANCE***

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Frederick J. Dorchak on 17 August 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the disclosure, page 2, after the description of Fig. 1 add:

Fig. 1A shows a top view of Fig. 1.

In the disclosure, page 3, after the description of Fig. 2 add:

Fig. 2A shows a top view of Fig. 2.

In the drawings:

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: The figures are labeled Fig. 1, Fig. 1A, Fig. 2, and Fig. 2A, as per the attached drawings mark-up. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 3, 5 and 7-10 are allowed.

Art Unit: 3722

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's amendment incorporates allowable subject matter from the previous office action into the independent claims.

The prior art neither anticipates nor renders obvious a holding device for an article to be processed as claimed in independent claims 7 or 10, specifically where the combination of limitations found in each independent claims includes "compressing a pressing member pretensioned towards the processing head by a spring" (independent claim 7) or "compressing a bent component pretensioned towards the processing head" (independent claim 10).

The closest prior art is US Pat. No. WO 99/26506 (US Pat. No. 6,450,931 Frey) as is discussed in detail in the previous office action.

Frey does not disclose the claimed limitation, in combination with the limitations of the independent claims, of "compressing a pressing member pretensioned towards the processing head by a spring" (independent claim 7) or "compressing a bent component pretensioned towards the processing head" (independent claim 10).

Therefore Frey does not anticipate the claimed inventions of independent claims 7 or 10.

Furthermore, there is no prior art, either alone or in combination with Frey, that would render obvious the claimed inventions, and no motivation found to modify Frey to obtain the claimed inventions.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 3722

*Conclusion*


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dana Ross whose telephone number is 571-272-4480. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



dmr



BOYER D. ASHLEY  
PRIMARY EXAMINER